



**Elizabeth Gara
Executive Director
Connecticut Water Works Association
Before the
Environment Committee
March 7, 2014**

**RE: HB-5420, AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDS FOR WATER SUPPLIES IN
CONTAMINATED AREAS**

The Connecticut Water Works Association (CWWA), which represents, municipal, private and regional water companies, *supports* **HB-5420**, which authorizes adequate funding to ensure that water systems installed to provide potable water in areas impacted by contamination have sufficient capacity to meet the public health, safety and economic development needs of the area.

In certain areas of the state that have been impacted by polluted wells, public water suppliers have worked with municipalities to install water systems that will address the water supply needs of the affected residents and businesses. In many cases, the area would benefit from the installation of water systems that not only have the capacity to meet the needs of the affected residents and businesses but also have the capacity to provide water supplies for fire flow and economic development projects.

Unfortunately, the current funding formula used by the state Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) in administering the program penalizes municipalities that would benefit from a water system with the capacity to meet the public safety and economic development needs of the community.

HB-5420 addresses this inequity, which will help municipalities address the long-term public water supply needs of their communities.

We urge your support for HB-5420.